

MAR 10 1999

HUMAN RESOURCES

HOUSE FILE

581

BY BARRY

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____

Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____

Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the creation of an indigent patient care pilot
2 project.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 581

1 Section 1. INDIGENT PATIENT CARE PILOT PROJECT.

2 1. The general assembly finds that a pilot project should
3 be created to determine whether the state is providing medical
4 treatment and care to the indigent patient population in a
5 manner that serves this population's best interest while
6 operating cost-effectively.

7 2. An indigent patient care pilot project is created to
8 analyze the most appropriate method for delivery of medical
9 and surgical treatment and hospital care to the indigent
10 patient population. The pilot project shall provide that an
11 indigent patient, who would otherwise be eligible for
12 assistance pursuant to chapter 255, may obtain, at the
13 indigent patient's own discretion, medical or surgical
14 treatment or hospital care, at the appropriate and necessary
15 level, from a health care provider at a hospital or facility
16 that is geographically close and available to the indigent
17 person rather than through the university of Iowa hospitals
18 and clinics.

19 3. The pilot project shall be implemented in Woodbury and
20 Pottawattamie counties by January 1, 2000.

21 4. The university of Iowa hospitals and clinics shall
22 administer the pilot project in conjunction with the county
23 general assistance directors in Woodbury and Pottawattamie
24 counties. The university of Iowa hospitals and clinics shall
25 contract with hospitals, facilities, and health care providers
26 in these counties to provide medical or surgical treatment or
27 hospital care. The costs of treatment and care provided under
28 the pilot project shall be paid by the university of Iowa
29 hospitals and clinics from funds dedicated to indigent patient
30 care.

31 5. A hospital, facility, or health care provider under
32 contract with the pilot project shall accept as payment in
33 full for treatment or care provided, the reimbursement amount
34 allowable under the medical assistance program pursuant to
35 chapter 249A, adjusted for the intensity of care. However,

1 the total reimbursement amount to hospitals, facilities, and
2 health care providers under the pilot project shall not exceed
3 each county's quota under chapter 255 multiplied by the
4 medical assistance program average reimbursement per patient
5 for the most recent fiscal year.

6 6. The number of participants in the pilot project shall
7 be limited to the quotas established respectively for Woodbury
8 and Pottawattamie counties pursuant to section 255.16. If the
9 county in which an indigent patient resides exceeds the
10 patient quota allocated for the county, and the indigent
11 patient is deemed eligible pursuant to chapter 255, the person
12 shall be served at the university of Iowa hospitals and
13 clinics pursuant to section 255.16. A patient eligible to
14 participate in the pilot project may choose to receive the
15 appropriate level of treatment or care at the university of
16 Iowa hospitals and clinics rather than locally.

17 7. The university of Iowa hospitals and clinics and the
18 county general assistance directors of Woodbury and
19 Pottawattamie counties shall each submit reports to the
20 general assembly by January 15, 2001. The reports shall
21 contain information relating to any cost savings to the state
22 resulting from the pilot program, the effect on the indigent
23 patients who have received treatment or care locally under the
24 pilot project, and any recommendations for continuation,
25 discontinuation, or expansion of the pilot project.

26 8. For the purposes of this section:

27 a. "Facility" means a place, other than a hospital, which
28 is certified or licensed to provide health care or treatment.

29 b. "Hospital" means a hospital licensed pursuant to
30 chapter 135B.

31 c. "Health care provider" means an individual who is
32 licensed or certified to provide health services as defined in
33 section 135.61.

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EXPLANATION

35 This bill creates a pilot project in Woodbury and

1 Pottawattamie counties to provide medical care and treatment
2 to indigent persons through hospitals, facilities, and health
3 care providers who are located near the indigent patient
4 rather than through the university of Iowa hospitals and
5 clinics. The university is to administer the pilot project
6 and is to pay the costs of locally provided care and
7 treatment, at the medical assistance level of reimbursement,
8 adjusted for the intensity of care, through expenditure of
9 funds dedicated to indigent care. Total reimbursement for
10 each county is not to exceed the county's quota under the
11 indigent patient care program multiplied by the medical
12 assistance program average reimbursement for the most recent
13 fiscal year. Participation in the pilot project is limited in
14 each county to the number allowed under the quota system for
15 the indigent patient care program. The counties and the
16 university of Iowa hospitals and clinics are to each submit a
17 report to the general assembly by January 1, 2001, which
18 includes information regarding cost savings to the state
19 resulting from the pilot project, the effect on the population
20 served by receiving treatment and care locally, and any
21 recommendations as to the future of the pilot project.

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